

Assistant Democratic Leader

Senator Harry Reid

Special Report

Terrorism

The events of September 11, 2001 were among the most tragic in our nation's history, but our democratic values, our freedom and our American spirit will prevail.

Our troops have done an outstanding job in the war on terror by capturing several leading international terrorists, while our law enforcement officials work hard to keep us safe at home. Still, terrorism remains our most critical security challenge, and we must remain vigilant until the threat is eliminated.

9/11 Report

In July the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (also known as the 9/11 Commission), which investigated the events of September 11th, released its final report of recommendations. I was honored to be named recently to a bipartisan Senate task force that will work to implement these recommendations and strengthen our defense against terrorism.

Follow the work of the Commission and read a copy of the report at: www.911commission.gov

Homeland Security Funding

This year the Congress has recommended more than \$33 billion for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), \$3 billion more than last year's allocation. I also secured \$27 million in homeland security funding for Nevada. As a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will ensure that the President, law enforcement agencies and rescue personnel will have every necessary resource to make our nation safe and secure.

Protecting Las Vegas

I worked with Senator John Ensign to revise DHS's funding formulas to provide more resources for high-risk urban areas, including Las Vegas. Last year we convinced DHS to include Las Vegas as part of the Urban Area Security Initiative and secured an additional \$10.5 million in funding for the city. As a major tourist destination, Las Vegas hosts nearly 300,000 visitors on any given day. Additionally, McCarran International Airport is the nation's seventh largest airport, and Southern Nevada is home to 18 of the 20 largest hotels. Our local communities are working hard to improve their ability to respond to terrorism or disasters, and I am committed to providing our law enforcement agencies and first responders the resources they need to keep us safe.

Combating Terrorism

Nevada plays a unique role in national counter-terrorism efforts. I established the National Center for Combating Terrorism at the Nevada Test Site, which provides training for law enforcement officers and others who are on the front lines of the war against terror.

Keeping Nevadans Alert and Informed

I recently hosted a Homeland Security Forum in Las Vegas with the Nevada Homeland Security Commission. This forum informed the public about current homeland security efforts and provided an opportunity for officials to assess future needs. Emergency personnel, first responders, members of the medical community, and homeland security training experts answered questions and provided exhibits and demonstrations relating to their respective roles in preventing or responding to a terrorist attack. Forums like this help keep Nevadans aware of what their government, state and local authorities are doing to make Nevada safer.

For more information visit my Web-Site at <http://reid.senate.gov>